**IT Applications Unit 3**

Ch 3, **Networked information Systems**

Information systems take advantage of operating over a network.

Networks can be classified in a number of ways:

1. Their size and architecture
2. **Their topologies**
3. The way in which they are connected, communication standards and transmission media
4. Their hardware and software

**Networks and topologies,** p 90

The topology refers to the physical arrangement of the devices in a communications network.

Complete the following relating to four types of topologies, or logical layout of networks.

1. **Star Network**
2. Describe the nature of this network

A star network is where all devices are connected to the central hub by their own set of wires, and so the diagram looks a star.

1. list the advantages and disadvantages of this network.
2. **Bus Network**
   1. Describe the nature of this network

A bus network is where all devices are connected to a central cable.

* 1. list the advantages and disadvantages of this network.

Advantages are that all the devices can be connected.

* 1. Why are these networks rarely installed nowadays?

1. **Ring Network**
   1. Describe the nature of this network.

A ring network is similar to the bus network, except that the ends of the cable are connected to each other.

* 1. What are the disadvantages of this network?

1. **Tree Network**
   1. Describe the nature of this network.

A tree network is a combination of a star and bus topologies.

1. **Intranets**
   1. Describe the nature of an intranet.

An intranet is an internal network that uses Internet technologies.

* 1. List the advantages of using intranets.